Tuesday, November 20, 2007

TO:	**Probate and Family Division Judges**
FROM:	**Marcia M. McBrien, Supreme Court Public Information Officer**
RE:	**Michigan Adoption Day 2007**
DATE:	**May 23, 2007**

On Tuesday, November 20, Michigan will observe its fifth annual Adoption Day. This event, which for the last four years has been the largest Adoption Day in the nation, is an opportunity to educate the public about the adoption process and the many foster children who need permanent homes.

Michigan Adoption Day is held each year on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. On average, approximately half of Michigan's 83 counties participate each year. Family court judges who participate in Michigan Adoption Day will be asked to perform adoptions in court on or about November 20 and, where feasible, to open those hearings to the public. However, participation is not limited to courts that will finalize adoptions at that time. For example, courts have participated by holding open houses and "adoption fairs" to inform the public about the adoption process. Judges have also worked with their local media to cover adoption and foster care issues. Participating courts will receive a variety of materials from the Supreme Court Office of Public Information, including press release templates, sample speeches, and sample op-eds for publication in local newspapers.

As we get closer to the date, the Michigan Supreme Court and the Michigan Department of Human Services will make a statewide announcement about Michigan Adoption Day. For now, I ask that you use the November 20 date for planning purposes only.

Please consider participating in this year's Michigan Adoption Day. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have; I can be reached at (313) 972-3219 or via email at McBrienM@courts.mi.gov. Please also visit our Adoption Day webpage at http://www.courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt/Press/MichiganAdoptionDayIndex.htm.